REMARKS

The Official Action mailed February 14, 2002 has been received and its contents carefully noted. Filed concurrently herewith is a *Request for Two Month Extension of Time* which extends the shortened statutory period for response to July 14, 2002. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that this response is being timely filed.

Applicant notes with appreciation the partial consideration of the Information Disclosure Statements filed on July 30, 2001 and October 17, 2001. Applicant understands that foreign references not indicated as considered will be considered when the parent application file is readily available. For the Examiner's convenience, Applicant submits herewith copies of foreign references cited in the above noted Information Disclosure Statements for consideration by the Examiner. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner evidence consideration of these references by providing a copy of the initialed Form PTO-1449 with the next Official Action.

Claims 1-19 were pending in the present application. Claims 1, 7 and 13 have been canceled, claims 1-6, 8-12 and 14-19 have been amended, and new claims 20-42 have been added to recite additional protection to which Applicant is entitled. Claims 2-6, 8-12, and 14-42 are now pending in the present application, of which claims 3, 7, 9, 13, 15, 20, 25, 29, 35 and 40 are independent. For the reasons set forth in detail below, these claims are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Paragraph 2 of the Official Action objects to claims 3, 9 and 15 due to minor informalities. Specifically the exponent "-12" was not in superscript. In response, claims 3, 9 and 15 have been amended to correct this informality. Reconsideration is requested.

Paragraph 4 of the Official Action rejects claims 1-19 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. In Paragraph 5, the Official Action questions whether the insulating film including boro-phosphosilicate glass in claims 4, 10 and 16 is formed on the substrate recited in claims 1, 7 and 13. In response, claims 4, 10 and 16 have been amended to clarify the location of the insulating film and now recite that the insulating film including boro-phosphosilicate glass is formed over the thin film transistors. Reconsideration is requested in view of these clarifying amendments.

- 12 -

In paragraph 6 of the Official Action, the term "transmission gate" is questioned. It is respectfully submitted that this term would be readily understood by one of ordinary skill in the art. To this end, Applicant submits herewith two documents that explain the term "transmission gate." These documents are from the internet and include (1) http://users.ece.gatech.edu/~rdanse/ECE2030/slides/ECE2030_Chapter02_2pp.pdf, and (2) http://www.microlab.ch/courses/cbt/cbt-vlsi/trans_gate1.html.

Paragraph 9 of the Official Action rejects claims 1-19 as obvious based on U.S. Patent 6,236,064 to Mase et al. Paragraph 10 of the Official Action rejects claims 13-19 as being obvious based on the combination of Mase and U.S. Patent 5,581,092 to Takemura. With respect to the leakage current recited in claim 3, the Official Action asserts this feature would be obtained by the transistors resulting from the process made obvious by the combination of Mase and the known process because implantation is not employed.

As stated in MPEP § 2143-2143.01, to establish a prima facie case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. Obviousness can only be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to do so found either explicitly or implicitly in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. "The test for an implicit showing is what the combined teachings, knowledge of one of ordinary skill in the art, and the nature of the problem to be solved as a whole would have suggested to those of ordinary skill in the art." In re Kotzab, 217 F.3d 1365, 1370, 55 USPQ2d 1313, 1317 (Fed. Cir. 2000). See also In re Fine, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988); In re Jones, 958 F.2d 347, 21 USPQ2d 1941 (Fed. Cir. 1992).

It is respectfully submitted that the Official Action has failed to establish a *prima* facie case of obviousness since the prior art references, taken alone or in combination,

Docket No. 0756-2344 Application Serial No. 09/916,484

fail to teach or suggest all of the claim limitations. The present invention is directed to a method of manufacturing a semiconductor device comprising two p-channel thin film transistors connected in series. Applicant respectfully disagrees that the limitation on the leakage current would have been obvious because of the absence of employing implantation. In the present specification it is described that such conspicuous leakage current resulting from NMOS is an impediment in various applications, especially in applications where dynamic operation is needed. For example, in active matrix arrays of liquid crystals or DRAMs, image information or stored information is lost (See page 6, lines 6-11). Although specifically describing the leakage current of NMOS, leakage current of PMOS is also detrimental to operating active matrix devices when PMOS is used in the pixel portion.

According to the present invention, the OFF current (leakage current) can be suppressed to less than 10⁻¹² A when a voltage of the drain region is 1V. Therefore, the claimed invention can avoid the problem of losing image information based on the OFF current. As a result, the p-channel thin film transistor formed through the present method can have a small OFF current.

In addition, Mase includes not only p-channel thin film transistors but also n-channel thin film transistors in a pixel (see Fig. 1), while in the claimed invention it is recited that p-channel thin film transistors are used as switching elements. The leakage current of NMOS is 100 times or more as high as that of PMOS (See page 13, lines 22-23). That is, the PMOS has a leakage current much less than NMOS. Thus, the claimed invention is useful to reduce the leakage current in the pixel. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that one of skill in the art would not have been motivated to modify the teachings of Mase to achieve the present invention since Mase fails to recognize the problems associated with the use of NMOS as disclosed in the present application and discussed above.

Paragraph 10 of the Official Action rejects claims 1-4, 6,-10, 12-16, and 18 under the judicially created the doctrine of obviousness-type double patent based on claims 1-14 of U.S. Patent 6,326,642. Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be held in abeyance at this time until an indication of allowable subject matter is made. At that

- 14 -

Docket No. 0756-2344 Application Serial No. 09/916,484

time, Applicant will fully respond to any remaining double patenting rejections as appropriate.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric J. Robinson Reg. No. 38,285

Robinson Intellectual Property Law Office, P.C. PMB 955 21010 Southbank Street Potomac Falls, Virginia 20165 (571) 434-6789

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1, 7 and 13 and amend claims 2-6, 8-12 and 14-19 as follows:

2. (Amended) A method according to claim [1] 3, further comprising [the step of]:

forming a blocking film between the substrate and the semiconductor island, wherein the substrate is a glass substrate;

wherein the blocking film includes,

a silicon nitride film with a thickness in a range of 5-200 nm formed on the glass substrate, and

a silicon oxide film with a thickness in a range of 20-1000 nm formed on the silicon nitride film.

3. (Amended) A method [according to claim 1,] of manufacturing a semiconductor device comprising at least two p-channel thin film transistors,

each of the two p-channel thin film transistors fabricated through the method comprising:

forming a semiconductor island over a substrate;

forming a gate electrode adjacent to the semiconductor island with a gate insulating film therebetween;

forming a source region, a drain region and a channel region formed between the source and drain regions.

wherein the two p-channel thin film transistors are connected in series,

wherein an off current from each of the p-channel thin film transistors is less than [10-12] 10⁻¹² A where a voltage of the drain region is 1V.

4. (Amended) A method according to claim [1] 3, further comprising [the step of]:

- 16 -

forming an interlayer insulating film including boro-phosphosilicate glass <u>over</u> the two p-channel thin film transistors.

- 5. (Amended) A method according to claim [1] 3, wherein the semiconductor island is a crystalline semiconductor island.
- 6. (Amended) A method according to claim [1] 3, wherein each of the source and drain regions comprises boron.
 - 8. (Amended) A method according to claim [7] 9 further comprising [the step of]: forming a blocking film between the substrate and the semiconductor island, wherein the substrate is a glass substrate; wherein the blocking film includes,
- a silicon nitride film with a thickness in a range of 5-200 nm formed on the glass substrate, and
- a silicon oxide film with a thickness in a range of 20-1000 nm formed on the silicon nitride film.
- 9. (Amended) A method [according to claim 7,] of manufacturing a display device, said display device comprising:

a pixel portion and a driving circuit portion;

at least two p-channel thin film transistors being formed in the pixel portion;

each of the two p-channel thin film transistors fabricated through the method comprising:

forming a semiconductor island over a substrate;

forming a gate electrode adjacent to the semiconductor island with a gate insulating film therebetween;

forming a source region, a drain region and a channel region formed between the source and drain regions,

wherein the two p-channel thin film transistors are connected in series,

Docket No. 0756-2344 Application Serial No. 09/916,484

wherein an off current from each of the p-channel thin film transistors is less than [10-12] 10^{-12} A where a voltage of the drain region is 1V.

10. (Amended) A method according to claim [7] $\underline{9}$, further comprising [the step of]:

forming an interlayer insulating film including boro-phosphosilicate glass <u>over</u> the two p-channel thin film transistors.

- 11. (Amended) A method according to claim [7] 9, wherein the semiconductor island is a crystalline semiconductor island.
- 12. (Amended) A device according to claim [7] $\underline{9}$, wherein each of the source and drain regions comprises boron.
- 14. (Amended) A method according to claim [13] <u>15</u> further comprising [the step of]:

forming a blocking film between the substrate and the semiconductor island, wherein the substrate is a glass substrate,

wherein the blocking film includes,

a silicon nitride film with a thickness in a range of 5-200 nm formed on the glass substrate, and

a silicon oxide film with a thickness in a range of 20-1000 nm formed on the silicon nitride film.

15. (Amended) A method [according to claim 13,] of manufacturing a semiconductor device, said semiconductor device comprising:

at least a first p-channel thin film transistor and a second p-channel thin film transistor;

a transmission gate including a CMOS circuit, said CMOS circuit including at least an n-channel thin film transistor and a third p-channel thin film transistor;

Docket No. 0756-2344 Application Serial No. 09/916,484

each of the first, second and third p-channel thin film transistors fabricated through the method comprising:

forming a semiconductor island over a substrate;

forming a gate electrode adjacent to the semiconductor island with a gate insulating film therebetween;

forming a source region, a drain region and a channel region formed between the source and drain regions,

wherein the first and second p-channel thin film transistors are connected in series,

wherein an off current from each of the first, second and third p-channel thin film transistors is less than [10-12] 10^{-12} A where a voltage of the drain region is 1V.

16. (Amended) A method according to claim [13] <u>15</u> further comprising [the step of]:

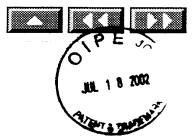
forming an interlayer insulating film including boro-phosphosilicate glass <u>over</u> the first, second and third p-channel thin film transistors and the n-channel thin film transistor.

- 17. (Amended) A method according to claim [13] <u>15</u>, wherein the semiconductor island is a crystalline semiconductor island.
- 18. (Amended) A method according to claim [13] <u>15</u>, wherein each of the source and drain regions of each of the first, second and third p-channel thin film transistors comprises boron.
- 19. (Amended) A method according to claim [13] <u>15</u>, wherein each of the second source and drain regions of the n-channel thin film transistor comprises phosphorus.



PECELYED TAIL BOX

http://www.microlab.ch/courses/cbt/cbt-vlsi/trans_gate1.html

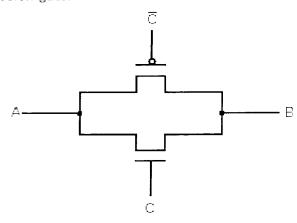


VLSI Tutorial

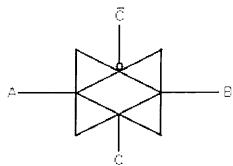
Transmission gate



The basic NMOS and PMOS transistors find ready application in switch-based logic arrangements. Used in this way they are referred to as pass transistors. The p-type is good at passing "1", and n-type is good at passing "0". By combining the n and p pass transistors in parallel we may produce a switch which faithfully transmits good logic "1" and good logic "0" levels. It is called transmission gate.



Such a gate is represented by a following symbol.



The table below shows how the transmission gate works.

C	result
0	A disconnected from B
1	A connected to B





 $http://users.ece.gatech.edu/\sim rdanse/ECE2030/slides/ECE2030_Chapter02_2pp.pdf$



RECEIVED THE ROOM

-CHAPTER II

CHAPTER II

SWITCH NETWORKS AND SWITCH DESIGN

R.M. Dansereau; v.1.0

SWITCH DESIGN CHAPTER II-2 SWITCH DESIGN

SWITCH NETWORKS

•SWITCH NETWORKS

BASIC IDEAL SWITCH

· Simplest structure in a computing system is a switch

IDEAL SWITCH

INPUT - OUTPUT

- · Path exists between INPUT and OUTPUT if Switch is CLOSED or ON
- Path does not exist between INPUT and OUTPUT if SWITCH is OPEN or OFF

R.M. Danserdau, v



SWITCH DESIGN CHAPTER II-3 SWITCH DESIGN

SWITCH NETWORKS

•SWITCH NETWORKS
-BASIC SWITCH

PATH?

NO

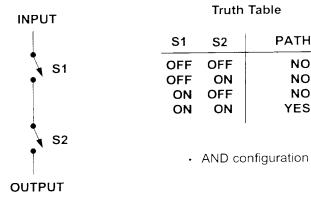
NO NO

YES

SWITCHES IN SERIES

RECENED AND ROOM

SWITCHES IN SERIES



R.M. Dansereau; v.1.0

SWITCH DESIGN **CHAPTER II-4** SWITCH DESIGN

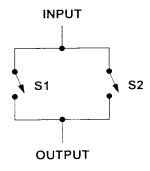
SWITCH NETWORKS

SWITCHES IN PARALLEL

•SWITCH NETWORKS
-BASIC SWITCH
-SWITCHES IN SERIES

SWITCHES IN PARALLEL

Truth Table



S1	S2	PATH?
OFF	OFF	NO
OFF	ON	YES
ON	OFF	YES
ON	ON	YES
		1

· OR configuration



SWITCH DESIGN CHAPTER II-5 SWITCH DESIGN

SWITCH NETWORKS

INPUT SELECTOR

*SWITCH NETWORKS
-BASIC SWITCH
-SWITCHES IN SERIES
-SWITCHES IN PARALLEL

RECEIVED THE ROOM TO 2800 MAIL ROOM

INPUT 1			
		Truth	Table
S1	S1	S2	OUTPUT
OUTPUT	OFF OFF	OFF ON	NONE INPUT 2
S2		OFF ON	INPUT 1 UNKNOWN
· Cr	owbarred l	evel whe	ere logic level is

indeterminate. Likely avoid this case.

R.M. Dansereau; v.1.0

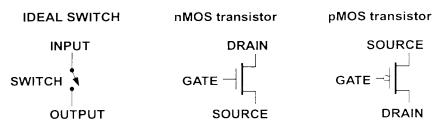
SWITCH DESIGN CHAPTER II-6 SWITCH DESIGN

CMOS

CMOS SWITCHES

*SWITCH NETWORKS
-SWITCHES IN SERIES
-SWITCHES IN PARALLEL
-INPUT SELECTOR

- The idea is to use the series and parallel switch configurations to route signals in a desired fashion.
- · Unfortunately, it is difficult to implement an ideal switch as given.
- Complementary Metal Oxide Semiconductor (CMOS) devices give us some interesting components.





TE 2800 MAL ROOM

SWITCH DESIGN CHAPTER II-7

CMOS

*SWITCH NETWORKS •CMOS -CMOS SWITCHES

SWITCH DESIGN

TRANSFER CHARACTERISTICS

nMOS	.
s ⁻	

S	SWITCH
0	OPEN
1	CLOSED

- nMOS when CLOSED
 - Transmits logic level 0 well
 - Transmits logic level 1 poorly

pMOS	1
s	

s	SWITCH
0	CLOSED
1	OPEN

- pMOS when CLOSED
 - Transmits logic level 1 well
 - · Transmits logic level 0 poorly

R.M. Danserenu: v.1.0

SWITCH DESIGN **CHAPTER II-8** SWITCH DESIGN

CMOS

TRANSMISSION GATE (1)

·SWITCH NETWORKS •CMOS

-CMOS SWITCHES

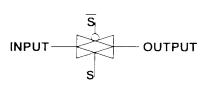
-TRANSFER CHAR.

IDEAL SWITCH

CMOS TRANSMISSION GATE (SWITCH)

$\begin{array}{c} S \\ INPUT \longrightarrow \\ \hline S \end{array}$ OUTPUT
INPUT—OUTPUT
s

S	nMOS	pMOS	OUTPUT
0	OFF	OFF	Z
1	ON	ON	INPUT





SWITCH DESIGN CHAPTER II-9

SWITCH DESIGN

CMOS

TRANSMISSION GATE (2)

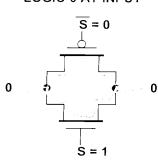
·CMOS

- -CMOS SWITCHES
- -TRANSFER CHAR.
- -TRANSMISSION GATE

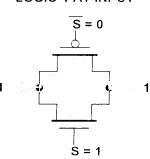
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SPLIT OF CURRENT ACROSS A TRANSMISSION GATE FOR LOGIC-0 AND LOGIC-1 INPUT

LOGIC-0 AT INPUT



LOGIC-1 AT INPUT



R.M. Dansereau; v. 1.0

SWITCH DESIGN CHAPTER II-10

SWITCH DESIGN

SWITCH NETWORKS

HIGH IMPEDANCE Z (1)

•CMOS

- -CMOS SWITCHES -TRANSFER CHAR. -TRANSMISSION GATE
- · With switches, we can consider three states for an output:
 - · Logic-0
 - · Logic-1
 - High Impedance Z
- Path exists for Logic-0 and Logic-1 when the switch is CLOSED.

· High impedance is a state where the switch is OPEN.

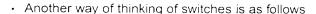


SWITCH DESIGN CHAPTER II-11 SWITCH DESIGN

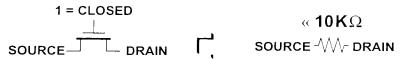
SWITCH NETWORKS

HIGH IMPEDANCE **Z** (2)

•CMOS •SWITCH NETWORKS •HIGH IMPEDANCE Z RECEIVED THAT BOOM



 Path exists for Logic-0 and Logic-1 when the switch is CLOSED, meaning that the impedance/resistance is small enough to allow amply flow of current.



 High impedance is a state where the switch is OPEN, meaning that the impedance/resistance is very large allowing nearly no current flow.

R.M. Dansereau; v.1.0

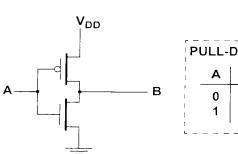
SWITCH DESIGN CHAPTER II-12 SWITCH DESIGN

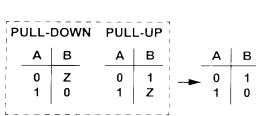
SWITCH NETWORKS

INVERTER (NOT)

•CMOS •SWITCH NETWORKS •HIGH IMPEDANCE Z

 $B = \overline{A}$





· This network inverts the binary input value.



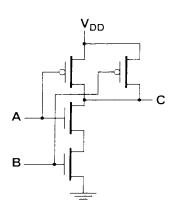
SWITCH DESIGN CHAPTER II-13 SWITCH DESIGN

SWITCH NETWORKS

NAND NETWORK

•CMOS
•SWITCH NETWORKS
-HIGH IMPEDANCE Z
-INVERTER

RECEIVED TOOM TO 2800 MAIL ROOM



$C = \overline{AB}$

-	PULL-DOWN PULL-UP									
1	Α	В	С	Α	В	С		Α	В	С
i I	0	0	Z	0	0	1	i i	0	0	1
1	0	1	Z	0	1	1	_	0	1	1
i I	1	0	Z	1	0	1	I I	1	0	1
1	1	1	0	1	1	Z	1	1	1	0

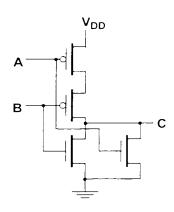
R.M. Dansereau, v. 1.9

SWITCH DESIGN CHAPTER II-14 SWITCH DESIGN

SWITCH NETWORKS

NOR NETWORK

*SWITCH NETWORKS
-HIGH IMPEDANCE Z
-INVERTER
-NAND NETWORK



$$C = \overline{A + B}$$

Ρl	JLL	D	OWN	PU	LL-	UP	1				
	Α	В	С	Α	В	С		Α	В	С	
		0		0	0	1			0		
	0	1	0	0	1	Z	-	0	1	0	
		0		1	0	Z		1	- 1	0	
	1	1	0	1	1	Z		1	1	0	

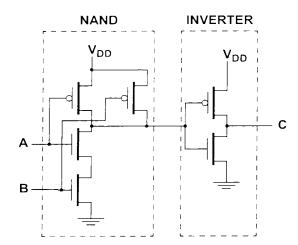


SWITCH DESIGN CHAPTER II-15 SWITCH DESIGN

SWITCH NETWORKS

AND NETWORK

SWITCH NETWORKS
INVERTER
NAND NETWORK
NOR NETWORK



	_	^	
\mathbf{c}	_	м	D

Α	В	С
0	0	0
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	1

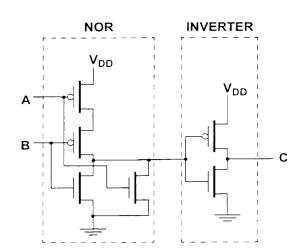
R.M. Dansereau: v.1.0

SWITCH DESIGN CHAPTER II-16 SWITCH DESIGN

SWITCH NETWORKS

OR NETWORK

*SWITCH NETWORKS
-NAND NETWORK
-NOR NETWORK
-AND NETWORK



$$C = A + B$$

Α	В	С	
0	0	0	
0	1	1	
1	0	1	
1	1	1	



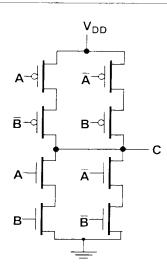
SWITCH DESIGN **CHAPTER II-17** SWITCH DESIGN

SWITCH NETWORKS

XOR NETWORK

SWITCH NETWORKS
-NOR NETWORK -AND NETWORK -OR NETWORK

to 200 MAL ROM



					_	
\mathbf{C}	=	Λ	R	+	Ā	R
\sim	_	$\overline{}$	ப	-	\sim	ப

Α	В	С
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	0

R.M. Dansereau; v.1.0

SWITCH DESIGN **CHAPTER II-18** SWITCH DESIGN

SWITCH NETWORKS

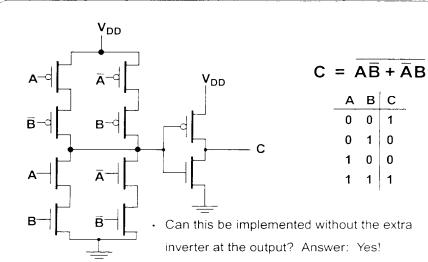
XNOR NETWORK

SWITCH NETWORKS
-AND NETWORK -OR NETWORK -XOR NETWORK

1

0

0



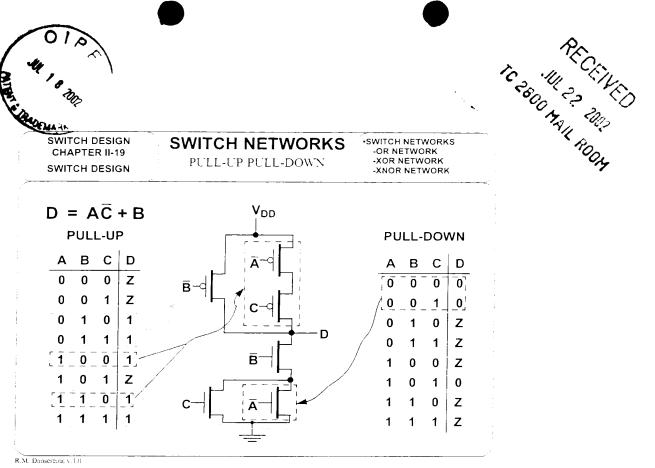


CHAPTER II-19 SWITCH DESIGN

SWITCH NETWORKS

PULL-UP PULL-DOWN

 SWITCH NETWORKS -OR NETWORK -XOR NETWORK -XNOR NETWORK



SWITCH DESIGN CHAPTER II-20 SWITCH DESIGN

SWITCH NETWORKS

FUNCTION IMPLEMENTATION

·SWITCH NETWORKS -XOR NETWORK -XNOR NETWORK -PULL-UP/PULL-DOWN

- Most Boolean functions can be easily implemented using switches.
- The basic rules are as follows
 - · Pull-up section of switch network
 - Use complements for all literals in expression
 - Use only pMOS devices
 - Form series network for an AND operation
 - Form parallel network for an OR operation
 - · Pull-down section of switch network
 - Use complements for all literals in expression
 - Use only nMOS devices
 - Form parallel network for an AND operation
 - · Form series network for an OR operation



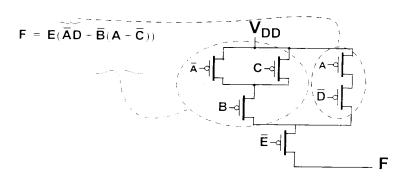
SWITCH DESIGN CHAPTER II-21 SWITCH DESIGN

SWITCH NETWORKS

EXAMPLE PULL-UP



 To implement the Boolean function given below, the following pull-up network could be designed.



R.M. Dansereau; v. I.0

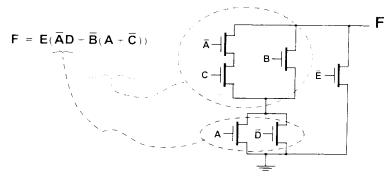
SWITCH DESIGN CHAPTER II-22 SWITCH DESIGN

SWITCH NETWORKS

EXAMPLE PULL-DOWN

*SWITCH NETWORKS
-PULL-UP/PULL-DOWN
-FUNC. IMPLEMENTATION
-EXAMPLE PULL-UP

 To complete the switch design, the pull-down section for the Boolean function must also be designed.



Notice how AND and OR become OR and AND circuits, respectively.



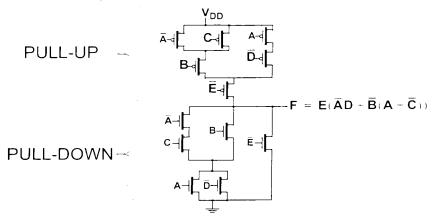
SWITCH DESIGN CHAPTER II-23 SWITCH DESIGN

SWITCH NETWORKS

COMPLETED EXAMPLE

-SWITCH NETWORKS
-FUNC. IMPLEMENTATION
-EXAMPLE PULL-UP
-EXAMPLE PULL-DOWN

 Putting the pull-up and pull-down pieces together gives the following CMOS switch implementation of the Boolean function.



R.M. Dansereau; v. i.0